

and 40 being in independent form. By the present Amendment, claims 30-38, 41 and 42 have been canceled without prejudice and claims 1, 5, 9, 10, 14, 19-21, 25, 39 and 40 have been amended. It is submitted that no new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised by the present Request For Reconsideration.

Claims 1, 5, 9, 10, 14, 21, 25 and 38 were objected to for formal reasons. In response, the claims have been carefully reviewed and amended with particular attention to the points raised in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the objection to the claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 21, 39, 40, 43 and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. Without conceding the propriety of the points raised in the Office Action, the claims have been reviewed and amended with particular attention to the points raised. Withdrawal of the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,568,401 to Davis. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-11, 13, 14, 16-22, 24, 25, 27-29, 39, 40, 44 and 45 were rejected under Section 102 (b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 3,923,121 to Kruppenbach et al. Claims 3, 12 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kruppenbach et al. in view of U.S. Patent 3,325,765 to Hart et al. Claims 6, 15 and 26 were rejected under Section 103 (a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kruppenbach et al. in view of U.S. Patent 5,601,448 to Poon. Claims 21, 22, 24, 27 and 28 were rejected under Section 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 1,574,297 to Lilleberg. Claims 30, 31, 33, 34, 36-38, 41 and 42 were rejected under Section 103 (a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kruppenbach et al. Claim 32 was rejected under Section 103 (a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kruppenbach et al in view of Hart et al. Claim 35 was rejected under

Section 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kruppenbach et al. in view of Poon. Claims 30, 31, 33, 35, 37, 38 and 42 were rejected under Section 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,546,950 to Schoeckert et al. Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submit independent claims 1, 10, 19, 20-21, 30 and 39-42 are patentable over the cited art, for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 relates to a monitoring cable comprising a connector for connection to a monitoring equipment, a cable including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the cable, the cable having a first end to which the connector is attached and a distal end. A plurality of electrodes are each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along the cable, with at least one of the plurality of electrodes being positioned between the first end and the distal end.

Davis, as understood by Applicants, relates to a method of making a free floating sheathed cable. An inner electrical conductor is loosely carried within the interior of an outer sheath. Connectors 18 and 24 are provided at the ends of the cable.

However, Applicants find no teaching or suggestion in Davis of a cable, as recited in independent claim 1, having a first end to which the connector is attached and a distal end, wherein a plurality of electrodes are each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along the cable, with at least one of the plurality of electrodes being positioned between the first end and the distal end.

Accordingly, Applicants submit independent claim 1 is patentably distinct from Davis.

Kruppenbach et al, as understood by Applicants, relates to a towed land cable. A typical land cable 12 may be 1.5 miles long and be made up of six sections. A typical section may include forty eight geophones which are attached to the main cable by way of leader

cables 48. Twelve geophones, for example, may be electrically interconnected to produce one channel of recorder information (column 3, lines 28-45).

However, in Kruppenbach et al. it appears that the geophones are interconnected in groups of twelve consecutive geophones. For example, Kruppenbach et al. indicates that there would be 24 groups of 12 geophones spaced at group intervals of approximately 330 feet (column 3, lines 45-47). Since twelve (of forty eight) of the geophones are electrically interconnected, it appears that the wires for the groups of twelve would not extend for substantially the entire length of the cable 12.

That is, Applicants find no teaching or suggestion in Kruppenbach et al. of a monitoring cable comprising a cable including a plurality of individual wires *each* extending substantially an entire length of the cable, as recited in independent claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants submit independent claim 1 is patentably distinct from Kruppenbach et al.

Independent claims 10, 19, 20 and 21 are believed to be patentably distinct from Kruppenbach et al., for at least similar reasons. Independent claims 19 and 20 are also believed to be patentably distinct from Kruppenbach et al. for additional reasons. For example, Applicants find no teaching or suggestion of a monitoring cable comprising a connector for connection to a monitoring equipment and a plurality of respective cables, each of the plurality of respective cables including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the respective cable, each of the plurality of individual wires of each of the plurality of respective cables having an end terminating at the connector, as recited in independent claims 19 and 20. Independent claims 39 and 40 are believed to be patentably distinct from Kruppenbach et al. for at least one or more of the above-noted reasons.

Lilleberg, as understood by Applicants, relates to an electric cable. However, Applicants find no teaching or suggestion in Lilleberg of a monitoring cable comprising a cable including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the cable, as now recited in independent claim 21.

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In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit independent claims 1, 10, 19, 20, 21, 39 and 40 and their dependent claims are in condition for allowance.

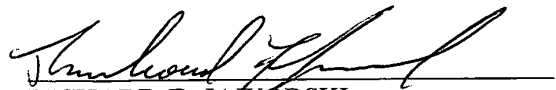
The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with this Amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Entry of this Amendment and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A monitoring cable comprising:

a connector for connection to a monitoring equipment.

a cable including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the cable, the cable having a first end to which the connector is attached and a distal end; and

a plurality of electrodes each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along the cable, at least one of the plurality of electrodes being positioned between the first end and the distal end.

5. (Amended) A monitoring cable as recited in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of resistive elements each electrically positioned between a respective electrode and [its] the respective one of the plurality of wires.

9. (Amended) A monitoring cable as recited in claim 1, [further comprising] wherein the connector comprises an interface connector provided at one end of the cable and including a plurality of contact portions each connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires, the interface connector provided for connecting the monitoring cable to the monitoring equipment.

10. (Amended) A monitoring cable comprising:

a cable including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the cable; and

a plurality of electrode connectors each electrically connected to a respective one of the

plurality of wires and positioned at various points along the cable.

14. (Amended) A monitoring cable as recited in claim 10, further comprising a plurality of resistive elements each electrically positioned between a respective electrode connector and [its] the respective one of the plurality of wires.

19. (Amended) A monitoring cable comprising:

a connector for connection to a monitoring equipment;

a plurality of respective cables, each of the plurality of respective cables including plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the respective cable, each of the plurality of individual wires of each of the plurality of respective cables having an end terminating at the connector; and

a plurality of electrodes each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along each of the plurality of respective cables.

20. (Amended) A monitoring cable comprising:

a connector for connection to a monitoring equipment;

a plurality of respective cables, each of the plurality of respective cables including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the respective cable, each of the plurality of individual wires of each of the plurality of respective cables having an end terminating at the connector; and

a plurality of electrode connectors each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along each of the plurality of respective cables.

21. (Amended) A monitoring cable comprising:

a cable including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the cable, the cable [being shaped] having substantially [the] a same shape for substantially [its] an entire length thereof; and

a plurality of electrodes each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along the cable.

25. (Amended) A monitoring cable as recited in claim 21, further comprising a plurality of resistive elements each electrically positioned between a respective electrode and [its] the respective one of the plurality of wires.

39. (Amended) A monitoring cable comprising:

a connector for connection to a monitoring equipment;

a plurality of respective cables, each of the plurality of respective cables including plurality of individual wires, each respective cable having a shape, [the respective shape of] each respective cable [being] having substantially [the] a same shape for [its] substantially an entire length thereof, each of the plurality of wires of each of the plurality of respective cables having an end terminating at the connector; and

a plurality of electrodes each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along each of the plurality of respective cables.

40. (Amended) A monitoring cable comprising:

a plurality of respective cables, each respective cable having a shape, [the respective shape of] each respective cable [being] having substantially [the] a same shape for [its]

substantially an entire length thereof, each of the plurality of wires of each of the plurality of
respective cables having an end terminating at the connector; and

a plurality of electrode connectors each electrically connected to a respective one of the
plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along each of the plurality of
respective cables.